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Building on Care and Compassion:

New building plan unveiled, fundraising campaign underway

October 19, 2011, Monroe, WI – The Green County Humane Society announced plans to launch an \$850,000 capital campaign to raise funds for a new 13,824 square foot shelter building. Thanks to a generous donation from Green County, they have already found an affordable building site at the Pleasant View Complex northwest of Monroe.

“GCHS has entered into a 99-year, \$1-per-year lease with the county for the 8.5 acres of land,” said GCHS board President Paul Barrett. “We’re very thankful to the Green County Board for helping us secure a very large piece of the construction equation so we can concentrate on raising funds just for the shelter itself.”

The building will include capacity for 66 dog runs and 175 cat runs, rooms for veterinary care, meet-and-greets and even a community education and multi-purpose center. With the current cramped facility’s capacity of just 37 dogs and 150 cats, humane society volunteers are hopeful for the change.

“The GCHS board has been studying the viability of a new shelter for a number of years,” said Barrett. “While we outgrew our current facility long ago, we needed to find the right long-term location and also do our research. We feel we have a complete understanding of our county’s animal-related needs of today, and the future. We’re ready.”

GCHS Fundraising Campaign Co-chairman and Monroe Clinic and Hospital CEO Mike Sanders said, “We’re proud of this community and the many people here who share the belief that compassion for our animals makes our community stronger. Enthusiasm for the project is very high and we’re anxious to reach out for support so we can start construction as soon as possible.”

Colony Brands, Inc. President and CEO John Baumann, is co-chairing the campaign with Sanders. He envisions a winning campaign on many levels. “Our success is hinged on the generosity of all the caring people in our county and surrounding communities, no matter how big or small the donation of time, supplies or money. We want everyone to be proud of the long-term success and sustainability of GCHS. We also want to set an example for other animal-focused organizations across the U.S. We want to show others how our community pulled together to support the volunteers and staff of GCHS who give 5000+ hours each year to the humane care and rehabilitation of our stray, special needs, abused and neglected companion animals.”

With almost half the building funds already donated or pledged, the fundraising campaign is well on its way. From special events, merchandise and pavement monuments, to “donor wall” recognition and room/kennel naming sponsorships, GCHS will offer the community many ways to get involved in the months ahead.

Read more about the upcoming events and opportunities at www.greencountyhumane.org. Or, to make a contribution online via PayPal, donors can visit www.greencountyhumane.org/Donate.html.

About GCHS

Located in the heart of rural Wisconsin, the Green County Humane Society was founded in 1978 as a 501(c)3 organization. From strays and special needs, to animals suffering from severe abuse and neglect, GCHS helps more than 500 cats and dogs each year. While some are adopted quickly, others need more time to heal and trust. With the goal of finding forever homes for all, GCHS has a network of supporters who donate over 5000 volunteer hours a year. Among their dedicated team, 341 community members in Green and LaFayette counties, over 100 individual animal sponsors, an active and involved board of directors, a dedicated and experienced shelter director and 12 part-time staff members.